

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, and 17 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 17 are allowed. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Campbell et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,437,040).

Claim 7 is directed to an alternative embodiment illustrated in Figure 9 of the patent application. In the illustrated embodiment, a delay is introduced in the standby signal by the delay element 610, and a control signal is provided by a detection circuit 605 in response to receiving the delayed standby signal.

The Examiner asserts that Campbell anticipates claim 7. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assertion for several reasons, as set forth below. As an initial matter, the Examiner applies the Campbell reference inconsistently in an attempt to make a case for anticipation. For example, in rejecting claim 7, the Examiner asserts that the Campbell teaches a system comprising a delay circuit (22) and a detection circuit (18). This assertion, however, is inconsistent with the Examiner's assertion in the previous Office Action, where the Examiner argues that the delay circuit allegedly corresponds to element 144 of Campbell, the detection circuit corresponds to element 22, and the power supply corresponds to element 17. *See e.g.*, the 09/13/2002 Office Action, page 3, regarding rejection of claim 4. Thus, even though both claim 4 and claim 7 call for a "detection circuit," the Examiner asserts that for the purposes of claim 4, the detection circuit corresponds to element 22 of Campbell, but for the purposes of claim 7, the detection circuit corresponds to element 18 (which is part of the power supply 17). The Examiner's inconsistent application of the Campbell reference from one claim to another constitutes an unreasonable reading, and application, of Campbell. Nothing in the

Examiner's current Office Action (dated "04/14/2003") suggests that the Examiner has withdrawn the earlier assertions made in the 09/13/2002 Office Action with respect to the Campbell reference.

Notwithstanding the Examiner's inconsistent application of Campbell, the Examiner's rejection of claim 7 based on Campbell is nevertheless flawed. Claim 7, in part, calls for a delay circuit configured to receive a standby signal from a power supply. According to the Examiner, Campbell teaches a delay circuit (22) configured to receive a standby signal (12SB) from a power supply, and further teaches a detection circuit 18. In Campbell, the 12SB signal is provided by element 18, which, according to the Examiner corresponds to the detection circuit, and not to the power supply. In contrast, claim 7 states that the standby signal is received from the power supply. Thus, at least the aforementioned claimed feature is missing from Campbell. There are other claimed features missing from Campbell. For example, claim 7 calls for the detection circuit to provide a control signal for the power supply in response to receiving the delayed standby signal. For these reasons, claim 7 and its dependent claims are allowable.

The Applicant does not suggest that the various features of claim 7 cannot be integrated into a common component, such as a power supply; however, the Applicant does note that in order to establish a claim on anticipation, the Campbell reference must teach all of the claimed combination features (*e.g.*, delay circuit, detection circuit) of claim 7.

Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner allowed claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 17. In light of the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 7-9 are also allowable. In light of the arguments presented above, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance,
the undersigned attorney hereby requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the steps
necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: July 14, 2003

23720

23720

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Ruben S. Bains, Reg. No. 46,532
WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C.
10333 Richmond, Suite 1100
Houston, Texas 77042
(713) 934-7000
(713) 934-7011 (facsimile)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)